

III. REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6-11, 13-17 and 18 are pending in the application. By this amendment, the specification has been revised to correct a minor typographical error, claim 1 has been amended, claim 5 has been cancelled and claim 18 has been added. Applicant does not acquiesce in the correctness of the rejections and reserves the right to present specific arguments regarding any rejected claims not specifically addressed. Further, Applicant reserves the right to pursue the full scope of the subject matter of the claims in a subsequent patent application that claims priority to the instant application. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 8-11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Singer (US Patent No. 1,486,695) in view of Hester (US Patent No. 7,252,200). Claims 5-7 and 14-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this amendment, Applicant has revised claim 1 to include the subject matter of allowable claim 5. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 1 *et seq.* are in condition for allowance. With regard to claims 16 and 17, as those claims are independent claims, Applicant suspects that the Office meant to indicate those claims as simply allowed. Claim 18 has been added to define further patentable subject matter. No new matter has been added.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that anything further is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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